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Customer Number

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Mauro Zenobi

Application No.: 10/588,387

Group Art Unit: 3744

Filed: August 4, 2006

Examiner: Daniel C. Comings

Title: APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING, STORING AND PROVIDING
BAGS OF BLOOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The present communication provides comments on the Examiner's Reasons For Allowance statement for the above-identified application. The Examiner's Reasons For Allowance statement was attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed May 12, 2010, and was further attached to a Supplemental Notice of Allowability mailed June 16, 2010. This communication is being filed concurrently with the application Issue Fee.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of the claims in this application. As described above, in the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner provided a statement of Reasons For Allowance. Applicant submits that the claimed inventions are patentable for reasons included in the Examiner's statement and for others as well, and notes in particular that the Examiner's own statement, which paraphrases the invention of claim 12, is not intended or understood to further limit or alter the clear meaning or scope of the claims as allowed.

Specifically, allowed claim 12 reads as follows:

12. An apparatus for receiving, preserving and supplying bags of blood, comprising:
a cabinet for containing all the components of the apparatus,
a refrigerated space for containing the bags each provided with bag identification means,

a magazine comprising a plurality of cells, each capable of containing a single bag, the magazine being housed inside the refrigerated space, each of the cells being identified by a cell code, and wherein the cells are structured in superposed levels, the cell code is univocal, the cell code is independent of the level on which the cell which it identifies is located and of the position of the cell in the level and wherein cell identification means capable of retrieving and/or containing cell codes are placed at the cells,

at least one door for allowing access by an operator to the cells,
a movement system housed inside the cabinet and capable of moving the cells,
a cooling system housed inside the cabinet and capable of cooling the refrigerated space,
a processing system housed inside the cabinet, capable of controlling the movement system and the cooling system,

a reading device for reading bag identification means, said device being connected to the processing system, housed inside the cabinet and placed at walls of the cabinet,
characterized in that the apparatus further comprises

at least one reading device for reading cell identification means and connected to the processing system, and at least one corresponding movement member for said reading device for reading cell identification means controlled by the processing system, said device and said member being housed inside the refrigerated space,

said apparatus comprising a machine space separated from the refrigerated space, said machine space further comprising the movement system, the cooling system and the processing system.

Respectfully submitted,

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/John S. Parzych/

John S. Parzych
Registration No. 52,097

Customer No. 22859
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
Suite 4000
200 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402-1425
Telephone: (612) 492-7000
Facsimile: (612) 492-7077

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